



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 22, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Housing and Redevelopment Division, Community Development Department

SUBJECT: Trust For Historic Preservation - Downtown Campus Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive a report from the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation on the status of their Downtown Campus.

DISCUSSION:

The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (Trust) has developed a site-wide master interpretive plan with the assistance of interpretive planning consultants, Metaphor, Ltd (Metaphor). The Trust owns and/or operates several significant historic properties in downtown Santa Barbara, including Casa de la Guerra, Jimmy's Oriental Gardens and El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park. Together, these properties represent multiple periods in Santa Barbara's rich and complex history and provide the roots of today's diverse local community.

The plan includes key interpretive themes, orientation and way-finding designs, and concepts for exhibits and interactive displays housed within the interiors of the Trust's numerous historic properties. The plan also coordinates with and enhances the Trust's education and public event programs.

The Trust will be implementing the plan through a phased process over the next several years. The master interpretive plan includes many opportunities to collaborate with residents, organizations and businesses to promote the understanding and enjoyment of Santa Barbara's downtown historic core. The projects included in the master interpretive plan will offer the local community, as well as visitors from around the world a richer, more accessible and more cohesive historical experience.

The Trust and their consultant, Metaphor, will be providing the Council with an update on the status of their efforts.

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SUBMITTED BY: Paul Casey, Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office